Violation of Human Organ Transplantation Act

*135. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that not a singly conviction has taken place since the enactment of Human Organ Transplantation Act 14 years back, despite the fact that several kidney rackets have been busted during this period;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that offenders arrested in such cases from hospitals get released soon thereafter and seldom face prosecution; and

(d) if so, what steps Government proposes to take to secure the conviction of offenders involved in kidney racket?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMA DOSS): (a) to (d) Sale and purchase of human organs is already banned under the provisions of the Transplantation of Human Organs Act, 1994. Health is a State subject. The Appropriate Authorities appointed under Section 13 of the said Act by the Central and the State Governments, are empowered to investigate any complaint of breach of provisions of the Act including those pertaining to sale and purchase of human organs. This Act already contains stringent provisions for punishing removal of human organs without authority and for commercial dealings in human organs.

Incidents of looting in trains

†*136. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:
SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that incidents of looting passengers by offering them food laced with drugs have increased in the past few days;

(b) if so, whether Government has taken any steps for the security of passengers and their luggage; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. There is a marginal increase in number of incidents of looting of passengers giving them eatables laced with drugs reported over Indian Railways during the year 2007 as compared to the previous year. During the year 2007, in all 725 such cases were reported as against 714 cases reported in the year 2006.

(b) and (c) Following preventive measures are being taken to prevent incidents of drugging in trains and Railway premises:—

1. Regular coordination meetings are being conducted with local police and GRP for better exchange of intelligence regarding criminal gangs indulging in such activities and joint strategy are formulated to effectively contain the crime.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.